

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the Application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for adhering transparent materials, comprising interposing an alkoxide between two materials, at least one of which comprises a medium transparent to ultraviolet light, externally applying a mechanical pressure to said two materials so as to reduce uneven gaps and improve contact between said two materials, using a nitrogen or rare earth gas atmosphere in order to prevent ultraviolet absorption, and irradiating ultraviolet light with a wavelength shorter than 200 nm to the above [on the] alkoxide portion, thereby adhering said two materials.

2. (Currently Amended) An adhered quartz glass plate comprising two or more quartz glass plates laterally adhered ~~by SiO₂~~ in accordance with the adhering method as set forth in claim 1 to provide a larger area, with the adhered part being transparent to ultraviolet light at a wavelength shorter than 350 nm.

3. (Currently Amended) A photo-cleaning apparatus comprising a light source part having one or a plurality of excimer lamps {s} or low-pressure mercury lamp(s), by which ultraviolet light is irradiated from said light source to an article to be cleaned disposed in a cleaning chamber, characterized in that [a cleaning chamber and a window for transmitting ultraviolet light provided between the light source part and the cleaning chamber, which is a photo-cleaning apparatus for cleaning a material to be cleaned by disposing the material in the cleaning chamber and irradiating thereon ultraviolet light from the light source part, wherein] the adhered quartz glass plate ~~claimed as set forth~~ in claim 2 is used for the window between the light source and the cleaning chamber.

4. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the transparent medium is irradiated with a wavelength as low as about 160 nm.

5. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of the two transparent materials is a quartz glass.

6. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the alkoxide is a silicon alkoxide, namely tetramethoxysilane (TMOS) and tetraethoxysilane (TEDS).

7. (New) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the alkoxide is a metal alkoxide.